Nagar-Beed-Parli railway line

668. DR. JANARDHAN WAGHMARE: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is aware that the Nagar-Beed-Parli railway line in Maharashtra has been accorded sanction in 1994, but due to inadequate budget provision and delays in starting the work, the project could not got momentum; and

(b) if so, the steps being taken to expedite the work?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI R. VELU): (a) and (b) Ahmednagar-Beed-Parli Vaijnath new line project was included in Railway Budget 1995-96. The work is being progressed as per availability of resources. Government of Maharashtra has been requested to share 50% cost of the project for its expeditious completion. The land acquisition has been taken up.

Construction of new railway line

669. DR. JANARDHAN WAGHMARE: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is keen on; constructing new railway lines in the country including the hilly areas in the north-east;

(b) whether it has prepared any master plan; and

(c) if so, the details thereof, State-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI R. VELU): (a) Development of railways including construction of new lines is a continuous process. A large number of new line projects have been taken up across the country including hilly areas in the North-East on demand from the State Governments, elected representatives and other considerations. At present there are 112 ongoing new line projects.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) Does not arise.

Ongoing railway projects in Rajasthan

670. DR. GYAN PRAKASH PILANIA: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the present status of ongoing railway projects in the State of Rajasthan, time schedule, project-wise;

(b) the details of amounts allocated, released and spent on these projects, so far, and the estimated cost of each project;

(c) the funds allocated during the last three years for these projects;

(d) the time schedule for completion of these projects;

(e) the steps taken by Government to complete these projects in time; and

(f) the escalation in cost due to delay, project-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI R. VELU): (a), (b) and (d) A Statement is attached (*See* below).